



PRIORITY POPULATIONS

People who inject drugs/access drug treatment



Lifetime uptake of hepatitis C treatment among Australian Needle Syringe Program responders rose from 29% in 2016 to 62% in 2021.



Hepatitis C RNA prevalence among Australian Needle Syringe Program responders declined from 33% in 2016 to 16% in 2021.



High proportions (>80%) of people who inject drugs reported experiencing stigma related to their drug use.

People with a history of incarceration



Prison hepatitis services saw 41% of all people treated for hepatitis C in 2021 and have a vital role in hepatitis C prevention, testing, and treatment.



Increasing investment in the prevention of new hepatitis C infections and reinfection through harm minimisation, including in prisons is vital to progress elimination.



Comprehensive transitional care post prison release can significantly improve hepatitis C treatment uptake and retention in care.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people



Hepatitis C antibody prevalence has declined among Australian Needle Syringe Program Survey responders who were Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and was <50% in 2021.



Approximately half of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders tested at an Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services were hepatitis C RNA positive between 2016 and 2021.



One in five Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders attending Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services ever hepatitis C RNA tested received treatment between 2016 and 2021.

Gay and bisexual men living with HIV



New hepatitis C infections among HIV-positive gay and bisexual men have declined since 2016.



Half of HIV-positive gay and bisexual men were tested for hepatitis C in 2021.



Injecting drug use was more prevalent among HIV-positive than HIV-negative gay and bisexual men.